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QUEENSLAND

in

CAMEO



AMONG THE PINEAPPLES, SOUTH QUEENSLAND

Queensland in Cameo

A HANDBOOK OF GENERAL
INFORMATION CONCERNING
NORTH-EAST AUSTRALIA



Compiled and Published by the
QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT TOURIST BUREAU
ADELAIDE STREET, BRISBANE

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FOREWORD



THIS booklet is published in an endeavour to present Queensland to the tourist in cameo form. Other literature published by the Queensland Government Tourist Bureau deals more fully with many of the subjects. In this instance, however, our canvas is small; but thereon an attempt has been made to paint a miniature picture of the Queen State, emphasising the wealth of colour, glorious sunshine, the salubrity of climate for nine months of the year and to show how different are the Northlands from the other States of the Commonwealth in the matter of primary industries, where settlement and agriculture are successfully being carried on under tropical conditions.

LAND OF THE SUN

*Fear not thy Youth; it is thy Crown—
The careless years before Renown
Shall load its times with jewelled deeds
And press thy golden circlet down
With vaster toils and greater needs.
Fear not thy Youth: its splendid Power
Awaits the Hour!*

AS the inspired pen of George Essex Evans wrote those lines, he saw with prophetic vision the might and majesty of the Queen of the North he loved so well, enthroned in all her tropic beauty and dowered with her wealth of flocks and herds.

But no sound of martial music, no fanfare of trumpets, heralded Queensland's humble appearance on the stage of national destiny; there were no coat of arms, nor "banners with a strange device" for the little penal settlement of the 'thirties of last century which sprawled precariously on the edge of the primeval forest, its winding river besieged by impenetrable jungle.

What changes Time has wrought! The tourist who visits Brisbane, coming from the larger and more populous Southern capitals, can scarcely visualise the metamorphosis that has been achieved since the days when the treadmill creaked dolorously on Wickham Terrace and red-jacketed sentries paced ceaselessly along the stone coping of the old commissariat stores in William Street.

Progress is a fairy that has the gift of immortality. She has waved her magic wand over Brisbane, changing its skyline, softening harsh outlines, filling denuded spaces with broad streets populous with tall buildings. But she is a sentimentalist for all her spring-cleaning energy, and here and there she has allowed land marks of old Brisbane which Time has hallowed to remain undisturbed by the passing of the years. The drab little chrysalis of a convict settlement has emerged into the third city of the Commonwealth, its beautiful river spanned by three noble bridges. Where the black man camped in a bark gunyah a metropolis stands, its flowering poinsettia streaming like a gallant battle-flag in the wind that sweeps from the river. Fortitude Valley, a large shopping centre of to-day, was once a swamp where frogs croaked dismally; and in the now populous Woolloongabba suburb the fragrant wattle flowered in all its pomp of silver and gold. At New Farm Park, instead of the clank of convict gyves, is heard the laughter of children at play. Poincianas flaunt their scarlet guidons and twenty thousand rose-trees scatter their argosy of petals to the winds.

INDEED, the visitor cannot fail to be charmed with the exotic loveliness of the tropical vegetation with which this Queen of the North is so lavishly bedecked. Exuberant hedges of bougainvillea and jasmine form the hem of her garment, and the pale blue petals of the jacaranda scatter a largess of fairy bells, falling in showers from her sweeping train. She wears a necklace of vivid hibiscus and fragrant frangipani, and an aureole of wattle crowns her regal brow with a chaplet of gold.

Colourful indeed is the beauty of this tropic wonderland with its background of waving wheat, tipped with spears of rippling gold; its vast plains where thousands of sheep roam in scattered flocks of fleecy white; its lush pastures of the coast where cattle stand knee deep in rich paspalum; its mountain slopes of volcanic soil where orchards are weighed down with their dowry of gold and scarlet citrus fruits; its illimitable horizons of the Far North where sugarcane sweeps down alluvial flats in endless cohorts of two-edged spears of green; its opalescent seas that wash the dream isles of the Great Barrier Coral Reefs.

But if you want to see the Queen of the North in her most picturesquely primitive setting, you must seek her out in her bushland sanctuaries. If you are in a receptive mood, you will almost feel the beauty of the bush as a palpable thing. And there are times when you may see Turneresque sunsets—marvellous pigments splashed across the canvas of the sky as with the joyous brush of some Master Painter—beneath which the hushed forest sleeps in a glorious cradle of bronze and enamel . . . while overhead the clouds sail slowly by like majestic galleons luffing for anchorage in some far port of Heaven.

Here the wild heart of Nature beats in rhythmic pulse. When you step through the festooned arches of the rain-forests and vine-jungles it is like entering some great cathedral through whose groined windows the light filters dimly and forms little luminous pools. Here the joyous "Tink! Tink!" of the bell-bird, the sharp cracking note of the whipbird, and the anthems of a thousand other feathered choristers make the forests a conservatorium of music.

To see the sweeping vistas of the jungle lands in all their witchery of loveliness you must stand at ebb of day on the mountain slopes when the rain mists are rising from the smoking valleys; when from afar the great ramparts melt away in misty purple, the setting sun touching them obliquely with a golden brush; and when the aromatic tang of the good earth rises from the ground at your feet. . . . It is then, if you have not done so before, that you will pay homage to the beauty of the Queen of the North!

THE BIRTH OF A STATE

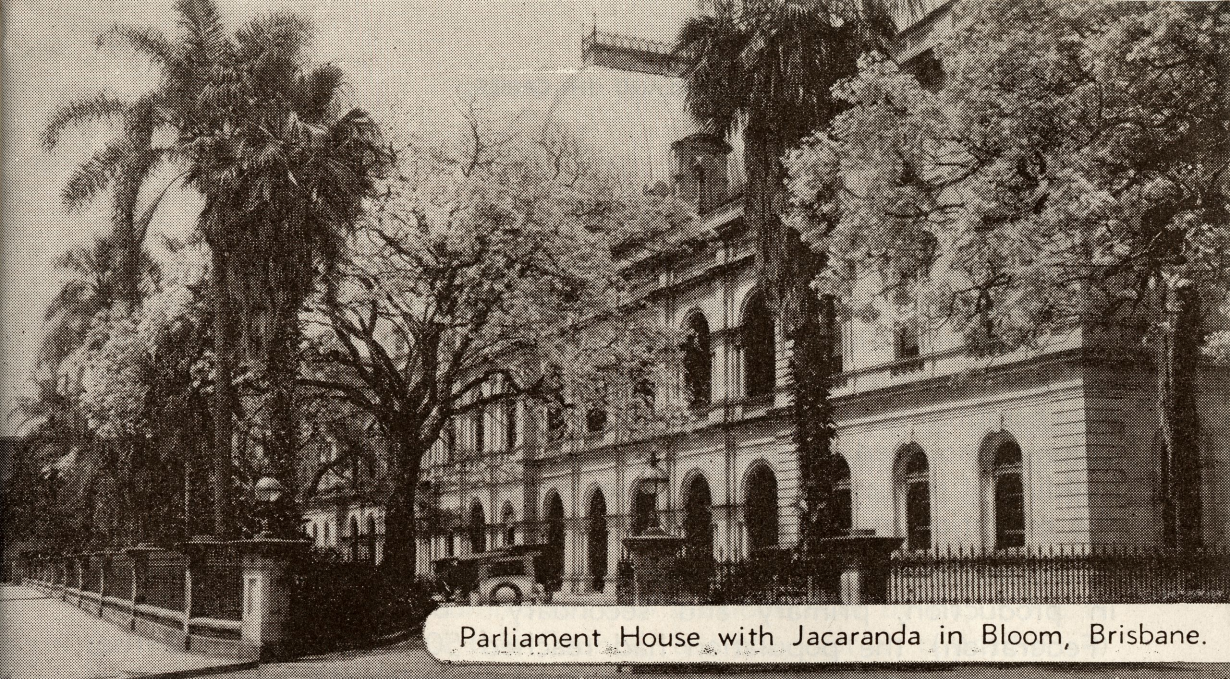
 N 17th May, 1770, Lieut. James Cook anchored off Point Lookout, on Stradbroke Island, and next morning passed Cape Moreton without entering the Bay which he named after his patron, the Earl of Morton. In 1787 George III. created the eastern portion of Australia, from the south of Tasmania to Cape York, a British Colony under the title of New South Wales, and in 1799 the then Governor of the Colony sent Lieut. Matthew Flinders to examine Moreton Bay more closely. Unfortunately, he missed the entrance to the river, and it was not until 1823 that the Surveyor-General of New South Wales, Lieut. John Oxley, entered the Brisbane River, which was traversed for a distance of some twenty miles.

In his report to the Government, Oxley recommended that "Should a settlement be formed in Moreton Bay the country in the vicinity of Redcliffe Point offers the best site for an establishment in the first instance." His recommendation was adopted, and in September, 1824, a start was made with the first settlement, consisting of thirty prisoners with a guard of soldiers. The following year a transfer was made to the site on the Brisbane River, where the capital of the State now stands. The penal settlement was gradually extended, until by 1831 the population was estimated at 1,240, of whom more than 1,000 were convicts.

But by this time a great part of New South Wales had been occupied for pastoral purposes, and the squatters were searching for fresh runs for their flocks and herds. Allan Cunningham in 1827 discovered the fertile Darling Downs, and thirteen years later he was followed by Patrick Leslie and other pastoralists. In 1839 the penal settlement was closed, and surveyors were sent from Sydney to plan a township and map out the country lands for occupation. The first sale of Government land in Brisbane was held in Sydney on 16th July, 1842, and thereafter the settlement progressed rapidly. Early in 1849 the first batch of British immigrants arrived by the "Fortitude," and were followed by many other shiploads.

With the increasing population there gradually came into existence a movement for separation from New South Wales. Finally, on 10th December, 1859, Sir George Ferguson Bowen arrived in Brisbane, proclaimed Queensland as a separate Colony, and assumed office as its first Governor.

New South Wales did not appreciate the loss of her vast north-lands, and withdrew all but 7½d. from the Treasury in Brisbane—indeed, a bill was sent in for £20,000. However, by the end of 1860, £178,589 had been collected in revenue.



Parliament House with Jacaranda in Bloom, Brisbane.

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A FEW months prior to Separation, Brisbane had been proclaimed a municipality—on 7th September, 1859—and on 13th October the first election of aldermen was held, with John Petrie as Mayor.

Originally, Parliament consisted of a Legislative Assembly, elected by the people, and a Legislative Council composed of nominees appointed for life. This bicameral system remained from 1860 to 1922, when the Council was abolished. In 1933 a Bill was passed under which it will not be possible to reconstitute the Legislative Council or extend the duration of Parliament beyond three years unless a majority of the electors at a referendum vote in its favour.

On 1st January, 1901, the five mainland Colonies and Tasmania federated and became the Commonwealth of Australia, each of the Colonies being thereafter known as States. As such they retained their full self-governing rights in all matters not directly transferred to the Parliament of the Commonwealth.

The amalgamation of the suburban municipalities into Greater Brisbane was consummated in 1925. The results of the subsequent co-ordination and planning are evident on all sides. Arteries leading to the city have been remade either with concrete or bitumen; the water supply has been made adequate for all requirements; the tramway and electrical services have been considerably extended; a city health department has been created, and along with works of a utilitarian nature have gone city beautification schemes, and the City Hall, completed in 1930 at a cost of £1,000,000 ranks as the finest in the Commonwealth.

THE STORY OF PROGRESS

ALTHOUGH in the first few years of the new Colony progress was comparatively slow, by 1865 the population had reached nearly 100,000. Trade had more than trebled; railways had been commenced from Ipswich towards Toowoomba, and from Rockhampton towards the Central West; and the public debt of the Colony amounted to over £1,000,000, incurred principally in the building of railways and other Government works, and in encouraging the migration of British settlers.

Since then great advances have taken place in population and in production, primary and secondary. By the end of 1900 (Federation) the population had reached 500,000. In 1922 the figures were approximately 800,000, while today the population is more than 1,000,000.

Production also has enormously expanded. There are approximately 22,000,000 sheep and 6,500,000 cattle (including dairy cattle) depastured within the State. The gross value of the production therefrom in 1943-44 was about £37,000,000, made up as follows:—Dairying £11,000,000, sheep raising £14,000,000, cattle grazing £12,000,000. Agricultural produce is worth £22,000,000 a year. Approximately 486,000 tons of sugar were produced in 1944, the value being in the neighbourhood of £10,000,000.

The net value of production of all primary industry in 1943-44 was £57,000,000 and of manufacturing industry £30,000,000.

The war made a tremendous difference to production and trade figures for Queensland. Queensland then became an important source of food for the Pacific forces. Large food contracts for the European front kept overseas exports at a fairly high level until increasing obligations of the Pacific front lowered them to £18,000,000 in 1943-44, compared with a peak of £33,000,000 in 1939-40. The total value of overseas and interstate exports in 1943-44 (including gold production) was £37,000,000. It is certain that, in the post-war period, Queensland with its vast natural resources will again regain and surpass the position as an exporting State that it held before the war.

Queensland furnishes 17 per cent. of the total Australian wool clip, 92 per cent. of the cane sugar production, 61 per cent. of maize, and 29 per cent. of butter, while the production of raw cotton is confined solely to this State. The value of agricultural production is 20 per cent. of the total Australian figure, and the State's pastoral production is approximately 22 per cent. and dairying production 24 per cent.

GOVERNMENT OF QUEENSLAND

THE system of Government in Queensland is, with some slight modifications, similar to that in force in all self-governing communities within the British Commonwealth of Nations.

The Governor is the direct representative of the King, and is the Chief Executive Officer of the Government. He is appointed by the King on the advice of the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, and his powers and duties are definitely laid down in his Commission of Appointment, and in the Instructions with which he is provided. He is required to appoint an Executive Council, meetings of which are summoned and presided over by him. He is guided by the advice of this Council, but may act in opposition if he considers the occasion warrants, but must report the matter to the Dominions Office immediately, and furnish his reasons for so acting.

In the name of His Majesty, the Governor assents to Bills passed by Parliament, except those which under the Royal Instructions or the provisions of the Australian States' Constitution Act are required to be reserved for the signification of His Majesty's pleasure. In urgent cases, however, the Governor may assent to such Bills, unless they are repugnant to the law of England or inconsistent with Treaty obligations, but must immediately report his reasons to the Secretary of State.

Although the Cabinet is not provided for in the Constitution, in practice the Members of the Executive Council or Ministers of State meet as a Cabinet without the presence of the Governor, and their recommendations are subsequently submitted for approval by the Executive Council, being the Ministry with the Governor presiding. The Chief Minister is known as the Premier, whose resignation involves the retirement of the whole of the Ministry. The Legislative Assembly is composed of sixty-two Members, who are elected for three years by a system of adult suffrage.

The Supreme Court of Queensland is comprised of seven Judges—the Chief Justice, the Senior Puisne Judge, and five Puisne Judges, one of whom is assigned to the Central, and one to the Northern Supreme Courts. The decisions of the Supreme Court are under certain conditions subject to appeal to the High Court of Australia and to the Privy Council.

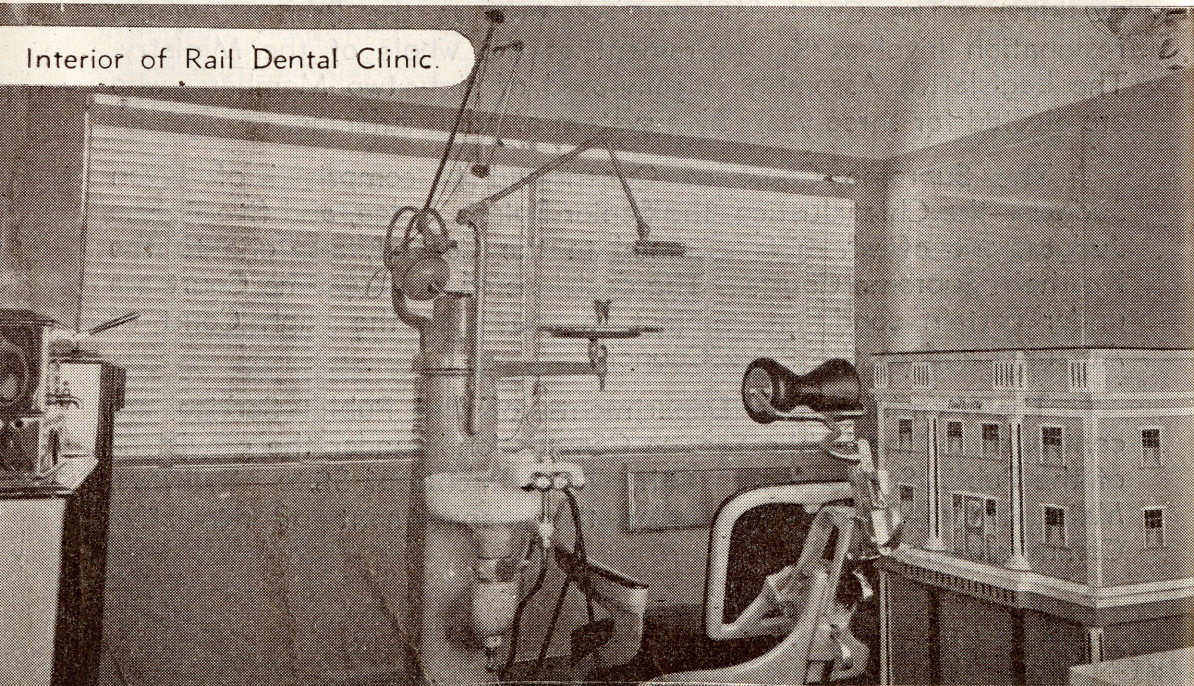
The Administrative Departments of the Public Service are controlled by the Public Service Commissioner under the provisions of the Public Service Acts. Other Departments of State—Railways, Main Roads, Police—are under the management of respective Commissioners.

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL SERVICES

QUEENSLAND has reason to be proud of its social services and cultural institutions. The system of public hospitals throughout the State is the equal of any similar institutions in any other part of Australia. Substantial buildings have been built in Brisbane and other centres, replete with every modern convenience and appliance for the treatment of patients. An outstanding contribution to the service of the community is made by the system of Maternal and Child Welfare Centres, administered by the Director of Maternal and Child Welfare. These centres have proved an important factor in reducing the rate of infantile mortality in Queensland, which is now one of the lowest in the world. But Child Welfare does not end there. The School Health Services and the State Children Department, and such noble institutions as the Mothercraft Association, Child Care Centres, the Wilson Ophthalmic Home for Western Children, the Creche and Kindergarten Association, and the Crippled Children's Society, are doing a quiet, unostentatious service in the interests of childhood. One of the noblest monuments of philanthropy is the Montrose Crippled Children's Home.

Then, there is the Queensland Social Service League, an organisation which thoroughly justifies its own two objectives—to relieve distress and to co-ordinate charitable effort. The Charity Organisation Society (agents for the Walter and Eliza Hall Trust) receives the support of the Government, working in conjunction with the Social Service League and the Department of Labour and Employment. And the many Church organisations also are doing incalculable good in the community.

Interior of Rail Dental Clinic.



SHINING examples of idealism in everyday practice are also provided by such institutions as the Blind, Deaf, and Dumb Institute, the Blind Musical and Literary Society, and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty. Other valuable social services are performed by the Dental Clinics, the two travelling manual training schools for boys, and the domestic science schools for girls—phases of the manifold, paternalistic activities of the modern State, which bring the country children within the all-embracing ambit of the State's educational scheme. Lastly, but among the most important of all, is that wonderful service, the Queensland Ambulance Transport Brigade, whose motto is "Ready Always."

The only public library in the State maintained by the Government is located in William Street, Brisbane. This is purely a reference library, containing some 50,000 books. It is intended at an early date to erect more commodious premises and to enlarge considerably the activities of the library. There are twenty-eight libraries attached to Schools of Arts in Brisbane.

The Museum and the National Art Gallery, Gregory Terrace, are maintained by the Government. Provision has been made in the Government's building scheme for new accommodation. The most important scientific work in the State is being conducted by the Department of Agriculture and Stock and the Commonwealth Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, both having strong practical bias and application to production. These activities are co-ordinated together and with those of the University, which is also linked with the Department of Health in matters under the jurisdiction of that department, including problems of nutrition. The Royal Society, the Geographical Society, and a number of specialist bodies promote activities in many fields of scientific research. The new University is being built at St. Lucia, and will be among the finest in the Southern Hemisphere.

Queensland is regarded as possessing the champion choirs and bands in the Commonwealth. The State and Municipal Choir, Apollo Club, Blackstone-Ipswich Cambrian Choir, the Brisbane Eisteddfod Choir, the Brisbane Curlew Choir, and other choral societies in the western, central, and northern districts have won high distinction, and it can justly be claimed that the Eisteddfod movement is more firmly established in Queensland than in any other State.

The Repertory and Little Theatre groups, the Authors and Artists' Association, Royal Queensland Art Society, Guild of Australian Composers, the Musical Association, the Shakespeare Society, Dickens Fellowship, and kindred societies also play a notable part in the city's cultural development.

THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

STRIKING features of the Queensland educational system are the very liberal opportunities offered to children to travel farther along the road to success after their primary school course has been completed, the broad curriculum of the secondary schools and colleges, and the provision made for the education of children living in remote parts of the State.

Primary education is free, secular, and compulsory up to fourteen years of age. Children are admitted at five years of age and pass through a comprehensive course of instruction, the syllabus including, in addition to ordinary subjects, elementary science, civics, music, art, and physical culture.

In all the large centres, provision is made for training in the manual and domestic arts boys and girls, respectively, who have reached the age of twelve years. The course for boys includes woodwork, and may also include sheet-metal and leather work, while girls and boys are included in the fruit-packing classes that operate in the fruit-growing areas. The Agricultural High School and College is at Gatton.

Queensland possesses vast open spaces which, for the most part, are thinly populated. Schools are maintained where there is an average attendance of nine pupils, but, so that no child shall grow up uneducated, an excellent system of teaching by correspondence has been established. The enrolment in the Correspondence School is in the neighbourhood of 6,000. The staff includes more than 100 teachers, and the prescribed curriculum takes the pupils to the standard where they may enter the various secondary schools.

Several tracks lead from the primary school through the field of secondary education, and the pathways are made easy by the granting of scholarships on a liberal scale. Special provision is made for the children of parents who are not in good circumstances. A technical, commercial, agricultural, or academic course may be followed by boys according to their desires or aptitudes. Similarly, girls may follow an academic, commercial, or a domestic science course. Extension and University scholarships place the highest education within reach of all who show the necessary ability.

A school medical service is under the direction of a Chief Medical Officer. Travelling dental clinics provide free treatment for school children. The use of wireless and films in schools is becoming of increasing importance.

LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

QUEENSLAND'S industrial arbitration laws, the administration of the Department of Labour and Employment, and the organisation of the industrial unions compare more than favourably with other States of the Commonwealth and with other countries. Indeed, in many phases of our industrial legislation, Queensland is far in advance of older and more industrialised nations.

Queensland, because of the liberality of its industrial laws, has long enjoyed envied immunity from major industrial disputes. This is not to say that industrial disputes do not occur, but the promptitude with which the Court acts makes for speedy settlement. Access to the Court is made easy by simplified procedure, and employees and employers readily accept its good offices.

"The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act of 1932" has been amended from time to time in the light of experience, and although in the first years of its operation it met with hostility from many employers, no one to-day would care to return to the time when the order of the day was "gloves off and the better man wins."

The people of Queensland have the benefit of the lowest cost of living and the shortest working hours of all States in the Commonwealth.

The wages of employees and the relations generally between employer and employee are regulated by a tribunal known as the Industrial Court of Queensland. This Court, which has the exclusive jurisdiction to deal with all industrial matters, consists of three persons appointed from time to time by the Governor in Council by Commission in His Majesty's name, the President being a judge of the Supreme Court. Industrial agreements between unions and employers may be registered and subsequently have the force of awards. The Court has power to declare, at periodic intervals, a basic wage for males and females. The basic wage (for males) is a weekly amount considered by the Court to be sufficient to maintain a man, his wife, and three children on a reasonable standard of comfort. The Court also fixes standard hours, and, in the making of awards, it is protected from interference by other tribunals; but in the determination of all questions relating to their interpretation or enforcement, its decision is final.

The Department of Labour and Employment controls the administration of the various Acts, in addition to all matters relating to relief assistance. The Administrative offices of the Department are situated in the Treasury Buildings, and staff offices are established in the principal centres throughout the State.

TRADE AND COMMERCE

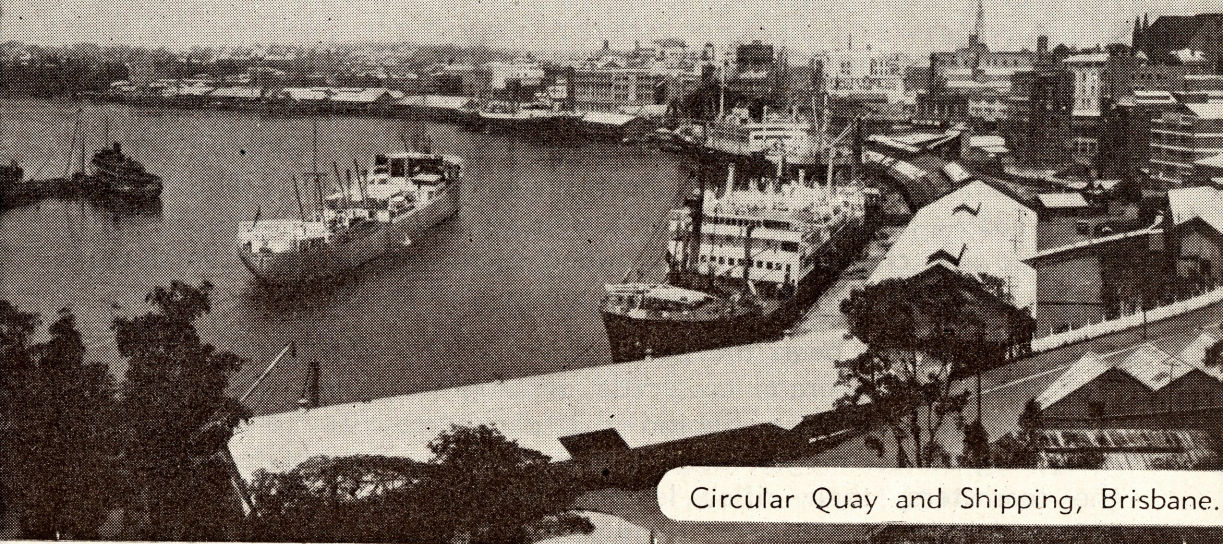
QUEENSLAND'S production consists largely of purely primary products (e.g., wool, fruit, vegetables, coal), or processed primary products (e.g., raw sugar, butter, beef, bacon, minerals, flour, cotton lint), and the commodities of this nature comprise the bulk of the overseas and interstate exports. Total exports increased from £26,000,000 in 1932-33 to £37,000,000 in 1943-44. About one-half went overseas. Imports in 1943-44 totalled £45,000,000. In recent years the greater proportion of imports has come from other Australian States.

The general position can be illustrated by the statistics of the sample year, 1931-32, when seasons were fairly good but prices very low. In that year, interstate trade statistics, as well as overseas, were collected in detail. Exports of pastoral products totalled £11,000,000 in value, of which 80 per cent. went overseas, wool being, of course, the chief contributor but beef providing nearly half as much as wool. Exports of farm products accounted for £14,250,000. Of this amount, sugar was responsible for more than £9,000,000 and butter and cheese for £3,500,000.

While 80 per cent. of pastoral exports went overseas, only 43 per cent. of exported farm products, however, went beyond Australia. Interstate exports are chiefly sugar, fruits (bananas, pineapples, &c.), cotton, maize, and sundry smaller items such as peanuts, canary seed, and arrowroot, all for the most part peculiar to Queensland in Australian production. Queensland also does a substantial miscellaneous trade in "stores" of all kinds. Overland movements of stock are very large.

Queensland's overseas exports are very much larger than its overseas imports, but the balance is reduced by an excess of imports from other States over exports thereto. Nevertheless, there is a favourable balance on the exchange of goods externally, and this is required to pay interest on investments in Queensland from outside, both overseas and interstate.

Before the war, about 85 per cent. of the total overseas exports, excluding wool, went to the United Kingdom. Wool is quite distinct and is able to compete anywhere. Wool, second-grade meats, certain pastoral by-products (tallow, hides, &c.), and smaller quantities of minerals, timber, and shell from the North went to non-British countries. Sugar is so important that it accounted for two-thirds of all produce exported to other States, except stock sent overland.



Circular Quay and Shipping, Brisbane.

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QUENSLAND'S purchases from the other States are chiefly of manufactured goods, and they exceed the purchases in other States of Queensland goods by over £9,000,000 a year. In 1931-32, which was the worst trade year, Queensland purchased the produce of other States to the value of £13,000,000, of which £7,500,000 worth came from New South Wales and £4,500,000 from Victoria. Every variety of industrial, household, and personal commodity was included. In the same year, £270,000 was remitted by film companies from Queensland. Total purchases from other States include overseas goods sent through Sydney. The proportion is quite large.

Brisbane is not centrally located and does not dominate the trade of the State as do the Southern Capitals. There is considerable decentralisation. There are six overseas ports north of Brisbane. While Brisbane is the Australian terminal for mail steamers, many refrigerated and other overseas ships go north to load beef, sugar, and metals. Most wool comes to Brisbane for sale, but some is shipped overseas from northern ports. Raw sugar is shipped from the nearest ports to Southern refineries and overseas.

Originally, the railways fed the ports in three quite separate systems, but, as they were extended, the lines linked together and have made a State-wide system. Special trains now convey fruit and vegetables from as far north as Bowen to the Southern markets. While road and air transport are growing everywhere, the railway provides the great arteries of commerce. The ordinary commercial life of the State is not different from that of Australia generally. A special feature of Queensland trade is the high degree of marketing organisation.

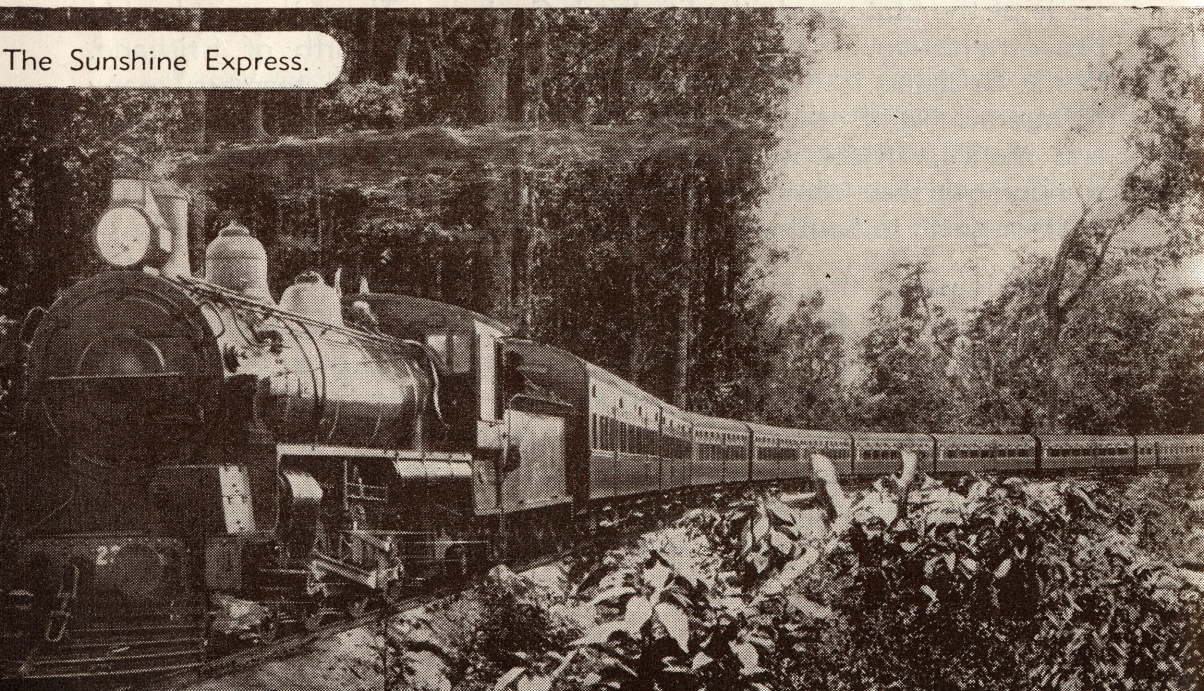
FROM BULLOCK-WAGON TO AIR-LINER

THE romance of Queensland's development from a province of New South Wales to the position of Queen State of the Commonwealth in the short space of 82 years—Separation dated 1859—has as many facets to it as a diamond; and one of the most glowing chapters in the crowded pages of the State's history is provided by the story of transportation.

So rapid has been the development of transportation services that they form a grand cavalcade of progress down the eventful years of our history. Behind the packhorse has followed the lumbering bullock-wagon laden with supplies for the isolated station, the teamsters, their rifles leaning against bags of flour, ever menaced by hostile blacks, even as the "crews" of the "prairie schooners" of the American West had to fight their way through hordes of red men. In the wake of the bullock-wagon has rolled Cobb and Co.'s coach, lurching over the rutted roads with freight of passengers and mails.

Then in swift procession has followed the "iron horse," displacing the four-in-hand and the buck-board, and linking the arches of the years—north, south, east, and west—in bands of steel; the motor 'bus and touring car, eating up the miles with tireless, smooth-running engines; and last, the fast mail 'plane, carrying passengers and mails to the distant capitals of the South and the sunbaked towns of the West—or, perchance, fulfilling that noblest service of all—errands of mercy for the injured and succour for the sick and the helpless—the famous "Flying Doctor" medical service.

The Sunshine Express.



GRADUALLY, the old mail coaches that had done yeoman service for so many years ceased to run between Brisbane and the Gympie goldfield and other centres, and when the ports from Brisbane to Townsville were connected by rail the traveller was able to journey without a break from Brisbane to Cairns.

To-day, Queensland has 6,497 miles of railway open for traffic—a greater aggregate than any other State in the Commonwealth. Indeed, it constitutes the greatest mileage of railway per head of population in the world.

In these days, when the “*Sunshine Express*” draws out of Roma Street Station on her long run up the coast, carrying hundreds of travellers and tourists towards the scenic wonderland of the North, it seems a far cry to that day of 11th January, 1864, when the residents of Ipswich were startled by the engine whistle of the locomotive “Faugh-a-Ballagh,” which had been imported from England, making its trial trip. The driver fired it up with chips of wood, and the wondering inhabitants saw the “iron horse” run out of the locomotive shops for the first time!

The rapid development of the various forms of motor transport has, of course, meant increased competition for the railways, but it has also played an all-important part in developing the State's tourist traffic, for motor transport needs good roads.

The Main Roads Commission has under its jurisdiction some 17,183 miles of roads, many of them admirably serving the purposes of the tourist. The roads, particularly in North Queensland, traverse country which is unique for its tropical grandeur, and scenes of unrivalled beauty are easily accessible to the tourist as a result of the wonderful development of the State's transportation services.

One of the most romantic chapters in the history of Queensland transportation is provided by the history and development of Qantas Empire Airways Limited mail and passenger service, which has pioneered aerial transportation in Queensland.

And not the least pleasing feature of transportation in Queensland is the rapid growth of the tourist traffic. Every year, mainly from May to September, tourists come to the Queen State in increasing numbers to revel in the warm winter sunshine and infinite variety of tropical delights.

Along the *Sunshine Route*, the railroad from Brisbane to Cairns, well-equipped trains operate, specially designed and constructed for the comfort and convenience of tourists; while within the cobalt-blue waters of the Great Barrier Reefs modern liners thread their way among groups and archipelagoes of verdant, coral-girt islands.

TROPICAL SETTLEMENT

WITH Queensland is bound up one of the most important questions facing Australia to-day—the white settlement of the tropics—briefly, the “White Australia” policy. The history of the settlement of North Queensland has been one of the greatest interest, not only from the point of view of economics, but from the viewpoint of science, for it has resulted automatically in the greatest experiment in acclimatisation of which the white race has records.

Nowhere else in the world has a white race successfully colonised a tropical country in such numbers and for such a length of time, and, it may be added, in defiance of every previously accepted theory as to the ability of the white man to live, thrive, and multiply in low latitudes. It comes as something of a shock to the propounders of that theory to realise that North Queensland has the unique distinction of having bred up, during the last eighty years, a resident, pure-blooded, white population of approximately 200,000 under tropical conditions—a population, moreover, which follows every occupation from that of manual labour to that of the highest and most intellectual kind.

Early in its history when large sugar and banana-growing areas were taken up along the coast and a considerable number of Kanakas from the neighbouring Pacific Islands were indentured as labourers, Queensland began rapidly to assume the appearance of a typical tropical country, with white overseers and massed native labour, and great numbers of speculators, prospectors, miners, and all the migratory riffraff that infest a new land in the hope of some chance El Dorado. Even more typical were the diseases—malaria, filariasis, and hookworm flourished, and the records of mortality and morbidity made Queensland the “dreadful example” of the ‘eighties. North Queensland, indeed, was bearing out the theory that a tropical country was impossible for white men.

Gradually the change came. With the exhaustion of the mines, there began a new era. Thousands of the migratory horde who had swept into the country left it to follow their fortunes elsewhere. Many put their capital into pastoral and other pursuits, while thousands of others began to compete with the Kanaka as unskilled labourers. The decision that excluded coloured labour from Australia saved Queensland, and since then the progress of settlement and development in tropical Queensland has been regular and extraordinarily rapid.



Spence Street, Cairns, North Queensland.

TO-DAY, Queenslanders of three generations are living in our tropics healthily, multiplying and demonstrating an entire adaption to the conditions in which they were born. This has been brought about by the successful institution of adequate measures of preventive medicine, the exclusion of races with lower standards of living and higher rates of disease, the continual increase in locally born inhabitants, and careful attention to hygienic conditions of living.

To a large extent, from the point of view of tropical hygiene, the residents of North Queensland have clung to the ideas of milder-climate countries regarding food, clothing, and housing. But the position even here is improving slowly. North Queenslanders are learning to eat less meat and more fruit, vegetables, and carbohydrates, to adopt more rational ideas of dress, and to observe other methods designed to provide a free current of air through the houses.

The final proof of the suitability of tropical Queensland for white settlement is to be found in the official vital statistical figures for Australia. The Queensland birthrate is higher in every year than the birthrate for the whole of Australia. Similarly, the Queensland deathrates are lower than for Australia as a whole.

The problem of the effective occupation of Northern Australia is not a State problem. It is Australia-wide, with British Commonwealth consequences, and calls for the sympathetic organisation of the best brains of the nation. The old misconception that tropical Queensland is not suitable for white men is passing into oblivion. The question has been settled beyond doubt that North Queensland is suitable for white settlement, and now it but waits for population, which will render it one of the richest parts of Australia.

COAST, HIGHLAND, AND PLAIN

QUEENSLAND, from the physiographic point of view, can be regarded as made up of several distinct regions, each with its characteristic structure and peculiar geological history, and each with its individual scenic charm.

Structurally, there are five principal elements, namely—(1) The Continental Shelf, (2) The Coastal Plain, (3) The Eastern Highlands, (4) The North-Western Uplands, and (5) The Western Plains. In some instances their natural regions are sharply delimited, but more generally there is a somewhat gradual change from one to the other.

The continental shelf is bounded on the seaward side by the 100-fathom line, the position of which in Queensland is exceptional for instead of being parallel with the coast it is for the most part divergent from the coastal trend. Consequently the shelf varies greatly in breadth—from 15 miles at Cape Melville to over 160 miles near Cape Manifold. An interesting point is that as the edge of the shelf approaches the coastline from the sea the highlands converge upon it from the land. For much of its length the edge of the continental shelf is marked by the presence of the Great Barrier Reef, which extends for over 1,200 miles.

A notable feature of the continental shelf is the great number of islands which rise from it. For the most part these islands represent isolated portions of the continent proper, like the Whitsunday Group, or coral growths such as the Capricorn Islands, but in the Torres Strait region there occurs recently extinct volcanoes, such as the Murray Islands. The larger islands off the Queensland coast, and more particularly those in the south, are often covered by sand dunes. These dunes, some bare of vegetation and others supporting surprisingly vigorous forests of eucalypts and conifers, are probably the largest in the world, being frequently 500 feet high. Mt. Tempest, on Moreton Island, approaches 1,000 feet in height.

The continental shelf is bounded on its inner margin by a coast which presents a highly varied shore line, being neither uniform in direction nor regular in outline. The result is a somewhat step-like arrangement with many indentations, the openings of which are to the north. But although on a large scale the coastline of Queensland is somewhat irregular, it nevertheless shows evidence of that universal tendency of coastlines towards the development of smooth rounded outlines and the elimination of jagged rocky headlands. This is especially shown in South Queensland by the long sweeping beaches of the mainland, and of the large coastal islands between Gladstone and Point Danger.

THE Coastal Plain varies in breadth from a few hundred yards near Cardwell to many miles on the south of the Gulf of Carpentaria. Where the mountains impinge upon the coast the Coastal Plain may be replaced by straight, flat-bottomed valleys or "corridors," as they have been aptly called. Excellent examples are the Russel-Mulgrave and the Bowen-Proserpine corridors.

The Eastern Highlands are naturally divisible into two portions. The first of these—the Coastal Ranges—forms a discontinuous series of mountain ranges which border the Coastal Plain from the State boundary on the south to the Cooktown Hinterland on the north. Different sections of these coastal ranges have received different names—as, for example, the D'Aguilar Range, the Berserker Range, Connor's Range, and the "drowned" mountain range which forms Hinchinbrook Island. The coastal ranges amalgamate with that part of the highlands which is generally known as the Great Dividing Range. This forms the second portion of the Queensland Highlands, but instead of forming the single range suggested by its name it embraces a series of ranges, plateaux, and highlands of the most varied descriptions both geographically and geologically, which, however, form a continuous, if irregular, divide from Cape York Peninsula to the New South Wales border. The Atherton Tableland in the north, Buckland's Tableland in the centre, and the Main Range in the south are interesting units in this highly complex and most interesting highland region.

The North-Western Uplands embrace the comparatively high country lying to the north-west of Cloncurry. The Western Plains cover a large proportion of the State, forming huge areas of rolling country, interspersed with flat-topped hills and tablelands.

Pearl Bay, Central Queensland.



THE STORY OF THE ROCKS

SUCH a vast State is Queensland that the study of its geology is still incomplete. There are still some portions of the State of which the geologist has an imperfect knowledge. Even in the most thoroughly investigated areas there is ample scope for research.

The Northern Railway traverses the eastern edge of the most complex part of the State, a belt of country roughly parallel to the coast, and on the average some 200 miles wide. For vast periods of time, occupying much of what has been called the Palaeozoic Era, this region was a great trough in which sediments were laid down.

The aggregate thickness of these sediments is believed to be many times greater than the deepest part of the ocean to-day. What is more, the sediments frequently are seen to be shallow-water types. Evidently, this was what has been termed a geosyncline—a great, trough-like structure that slowly has subsided over a great part of geological time, during which sediments were being deposited in it.

The variety of rocks is considerable. Sediments and volcanic rocks are interbedded. By the drag at the sides due to the sinking of the trough these beds often are highly tilted, sometimes folded. They have been intruded by great masses of magma that have solidified deep down to form such rocks as granite. They have been broken by earth movements and deeply eroded.

Due to all this, the belt of country is very varied. Sometimes the upturned edges of the strata form great mountain blocks, such as the D'Aguilar, Berserker, and Drummond Ranges. Sometimes, by subsequent changes, they occur beneath the intermontane and coastal plains. The granites, now often exposed by erosion, occur sometimes in the highlands, or sometimes in the plainlands.

These granites largely are responsible for the mineral wealth of the State; for the solutions that accompanied them, in their injections, often carried gold, copper, and other salts that have formed the ores that we work to-day. One geosyncline is occupied by the latest and least altered rocks which form a great basin rich in coal deposits, and in this basin the Dawson, Mackenzie, and Isaac Rivers flow.

In the great Western Plains the old basement rocks are covered by a mantle of sediments that were deposited in the next or Mesozoic Era. The Great Artesian Basin which occurs in these regions is the largest in the world, the total area being more than 600,000 square miles. More than two-thirds are in Queensland.

MINERAL WEALTH

QUEENSLAND'S interesting history is indissolubly bound up with that great pioneering industry—mining. The early gold rushes of Canoona, Gympie, Charters Towers, Croydon, Ravenswood, Etheridge, Oaks, and Palmer in the later half of the last century distributed centres of population in widely spread areas of the State.

Many important gold and mineral deposits, however, escaped the notice of the early prospectors and it is important to note that within the past twenty-five years several finds of importance have been made. These include the now world-famous silver-lead-zinc and copper deposits of Mount Isa, the Cracow, Wenlock, Iron Range, and Dittmer (Kelsey Creek) goldfields and the large alluvial tin deposits of the Mount Garnet district. The rich rutile-zircon-ilmenite deposits occurring in beach sands on the south-eastern portion of the State have only recently been exploited for their mineral contents. Fluorspar of high grade was first produced in quantity within the past twenty years and the exploitation of bentonitic clays is of very recent origin.

Practically every mineral known to science has been found in Queensland, which, in times of stress, has supplied strategic metals and minerals, including rare types, demanded by national necessity.

Within the past ninety years, the State has produced some £200,000,000 worth of gold and minerals, of which the gold production accounted for slightly less than half the total sum.

The State possesses within its borders two world-famous mines—Mount Morgan and Mount Isa. The former is Queensland's premier gold producer as well as being a large producer of copper. Mount Isa Mines exploited its silver-lead-zinc deposits on a large scale for some years but temporarily suspended these operations to produce copper from lodes existing near its lead-zinc lodes.

The Government continues to encourage the industry, provision being made to assist all interested, from the prospector and gouger to the largest companies. Government-owned compressor plants, pumping units, and numerous items of mining equipment are available for hire at nominal rates and Government-owned batteries and treatment plants are available to ore producers to treat their ores.

The coal deposits of the State are very extensive and include the famous Blair Athol seam, which is one of the largest seams of black coal in the world. Shale-oil deposits, some of which have been examined recently, are extensive in area and thickness, while in the realm of petroleum much scientific work is being done on the south-western portion of the State in an endeavour to locate oil.

ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY

NO State in Australia has a better climate than Queensland, nor such a variety of scenery throughout the long range of its eastern coastline, though much of its tropic grandeur has yet to be made accessible to the tourist with a limited time for sightseeing at his disposal. The term "cold" can hardly be applied to the winter in even the most southerly part of the State, Brisbane having a mean minimum winter temperature of 49.8 degrees and a mean winter maximum of 69.5 degrees.

The coastal plain, which includes some very important agricultural districts on the east coast, is predominantly a narrow strip of country in so far as that coast is concerned; indeed, just north of the Herbert River at Cardwell the plain is less than a mile wide. On the southern shores of the Gulf of Carpentaria, however, it extends inland for many miles until it reaches the western plains.

Westward of the Great Dividing Range, farming lands comprise a vast area of the near interior. The main divide runs approximately due north from the New South Wales border and in the south-east corner of the State it reaches a very considerable elevation with peaks in the vicinity of 4,000 feet in height. Skirting the eastern fringe of the Darling Downs the Great Divide passes just east of Toowoomba and then continues in a north-westerly direction to Castle Hill. It then bears towards the coast and coalesces with the coastal ranges near Herberton. The main divide may be regarded as again assuming its separate identity north of Port Douglas.

The height of the coastal ranges to a great extent controls the quantity and distribution of the rainfall on the coastal fringe, especially in the tropical area; from Maryborough to the southern border of the State a fairly well-distributed rainfall extends a much greater distance inland.

The coastal lands of the south are devoted almost entirely to dairying and its attendant agriculture, such as lucerne, maize, and sorghum, though a quantity of sugar-cane is grown in the Nambour district, mainly upon the rich alluvial flats of the picturesque Maroochy River, 65 miles north of Brisbane. The rich basaltic and alluvial lands of the Bundaberg district are cultivated almost entirely for sugar-growing, although mixed farming is practised on the upper reaches of the Burnett River; but from here northward to Mackay the rainfall may be less even in distribution, rendering agriculture and dairying somewhat of a seasonal nature. The high, jungle-clad ranges near Mackay ensure a well-distributed annual rainfall of 67 inches, so sugar-cane growing has become the most important district industry.



Tobacco Harvesting, Miriam Vale, Central Queensland.

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FROM Mackay northward to Ingham, a distance of 300 miles by rail, the rainfall is confined mainly to the summer months; therefore, the coastal lands (with the exception of Proserpine and the irrigated lands of the Burdekin Delta at Ayr, which grow sugar-cane) are used for beef cattle-raising. From Ingham northwards to Cooktown, the plateau of the interior reaches its greatest height, breaking very near to the coast in a rugged line of jungle-clad mountains, supplying the rich tropic lands at its base with regular and plentiful rains, and reaching the high yearly average of 143 inches at Innisfail.

To the westward of Brisbane, an extensive belt of potential agricultural lands extends into the interior, reaching far beyond the Darling Downs. Dairying is making remarkable progress in this region, agriculture is well established, and lamb raising is expanding.

The cattle-breeder gives place to the woolgrower on the rolling brown soil downs and parklands of the interior, mostly Mitchell grass country and now plentifully supplied with water from artesian and sub-artesian bores.

To the westward of this heavily stocked sheep belt the water-courses flow southward towards Lake Eyre in South Australia. The far western cattle country is in a region of light rainfall with an annual average of up to 12 inches, but about once in every three years large areas become naturally irrigated by the overflow of the Cooper, Diamantina, and Georgina Rivers. The parklike downs of the interior reach almost to the western border of the State and northward in a narrow tongue towards the Gulf of Carpentaria. These downs are up to 1,000 feet above sea level and in the extreme north-west merge into the Barkly Tableland.

PASTORAL PROGRESS

THE impression that Queensland is an immense sheep and cattle farm is wrongly founded and such a description has long ceased to be applicable. Other industries have grown in importance and reduced the pre-eminence of the pastoral industry, nevertheless it still retains its unquestioned lead and is deservedly regarded as the main source of the State's wealth. In the year 1943-44 the pastoral industry (including dairy products), benefited the State to the extent of £40,000,000, while agriculture returned £14,000,000.

We must go back to 1827 to find the beginnings of the great story of our pastoral industry. In that year Allan Cunningham discovered the vast rolling acres of the Darling Downs. Cunningham's Gap became one of the gateways to the magnificent stretch of country that has meant so much to our development as a State.

From 1840 onwards, long slow-moving teams of bullocks wound their way through that narrow opening with supplies for Patrick Leslie, "Tinker" Campbell, and Arthur Hodgson, who were among the pioneer squatters of the Downs. Leslie and his party (except for the escaped prisoner Baker), were the first white men to settle on the Darling Downs. They took up country from the bottom of Toolburra to the head of the Condamine. Soon after them came King, Sibley, Isaacs, and others. In 1847 George Leslie had a sheep station on the very spot where Warwick now stands. Leslie tells us that in 1843 Drayton consisted of Bill Horton's (the Fiver) public house and a shanty or two, with only one well for the town from which the water had to be bailed by a pannikin.

Difficulties of transport held back any attempt to occupy the splendid territory further west, which Sir James Mitchell had explored in 1846 and Kennedy had further penetrated a year later, when he crossed the Barcoo and discovered the Thomson River. The presumption was that no industry could pay requiring a fair amount of labour and handicapped by hundreds of miles of land transport. Yet in view of the rich returns from flocks elsewhere it was impossible that these solitudes should for very long await easier conditions. A few adventurous spirits pushed out to the great undulating plains. Their example was quickly followed and in the early "sixties" a general migration westward began. Whenever water was found the country was taken up. In a few years the territory was parcelled out in sheep and cattle runs except where absence of water forbade settlement. On these neglected areas are now many prosperous properties, the pioneers little suspecting the inexhaustible supplies awaiting the magic touch of the boring-rod.

THE difficulties were enormous, railways had not yet penetrated the country, though a small start had been made. Wool took from six to nine months reaching the coast by bullock dray, and the carriage of supplies to the station cost more than the goods themselves. Frequently the next clip was awaiting carriage before the previous one had left the station. Wages were high, and all forms of labour scarce. The quality of sheep, too, was poor, many of them being the culls from southern flocks bought at high prices.

But brighter days were in store. As railways were pushed out, the attention of Southerners was attracted by the potentialities of Western Queensland. The phenomenal gold production of Victoria had produced an abundance of money seeking investment. Much of this accumulated wealth flowed into Queensland. A Victorian invasion began. Sheep that had hitherto run in flocks of 1,500 or 2,000, tended during the day by a man and a dog and yarded at night, were now turned into large paddocks by tens of thousands with only a boundary rider to look to the fences. The best rams procurable from the Darling Downs and Southern studs rapidly improved the flocks. In 1873, wool rose to a price not touched for many years; a boom in Queensland stations set in, and the remnant of the pioneers who elected to do so sold out at prices that gave a rich though tardy reward for long and toilsome enterprise.

In 1884 a notable change of land policy was adopted. The original 1869 leases were expiring, and it was recognised that the big squattages could not be allowed to monopolise the country. Room was required for smaller holdings. The old leases were renewed conditionally upon a portion of the run being surrendered. The surrendered land was surveyed into areas up to 20,000 acres. The old lessee—who regarded any area under 400 square miles as a paltry holding and counted his yearly increase of calves by thousands and lambs by tens of thousands—ridiculed the new departure, maintaining that any man must starve on such a niggardly area. But these sinister predictions did not deter selectors from testing the question. A few years experience justified expectations and a great demand set in.

The land policy remains substantially the same to-day. As the old pastoral leases expire in the best country the Crown exercises its right to resume the holdings for closer grazing selections. The maximum area that can be taken up by a selector is 60,000 acres, but where the area exceeds 30,000 acres the annual rent as fixed for the first period of the lease must not exceed £400. This elasticity allows the selector a greater holding in country where the carrying capacity is not so great. In the remote areas of the State pastoral lease tenures are unlimited in respect to area and rental.

LAND SETTLEMENT

QUEENSLAND is divided into land agents' districts, and in the principal towns of each district there is a Government Land Agent. Information regarding land for selection may be obtained from the agents or from the Lands Department, Brisbane.

Land is available as perpetual lease selections, grazing selections (i.e., grazing homesteads and grazing farms), perpetual lease prickly-pear selections, and perpetual lease prickly-pear development selections. Perpetual lease selections are not capable of being purchased as freehold. The rent for the first fifteen-year term is $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the notified capital value, the capital value of each period of fifteen years thereafter being determined by the Land Court.

Notifications setting out the place and time of the opening of the land for selection, the nature of the tenure, etc., appear from time to time in the "Government Gazette." Applications must be lodged on the prescribed form at the place where the land is open for selection, and the applicant must either attend in person at the Land Commissioner's Court when the application is being dealt with or be represented by an agent. In the event of two or more simultaneous applicants for the same portion of land, priority as between the applicants is determined by ballot. Where sheep land is opened for selection as a grazing homestead and stocking conditions are imposed, the applicant must make a declaration as to his pastoral or land experience and his means of financing the selection. The successful applicant must reside on the selection during the first seven years of the term. Crown land for dairying and mixed farming purposes is made available under perpetual lease tenure.

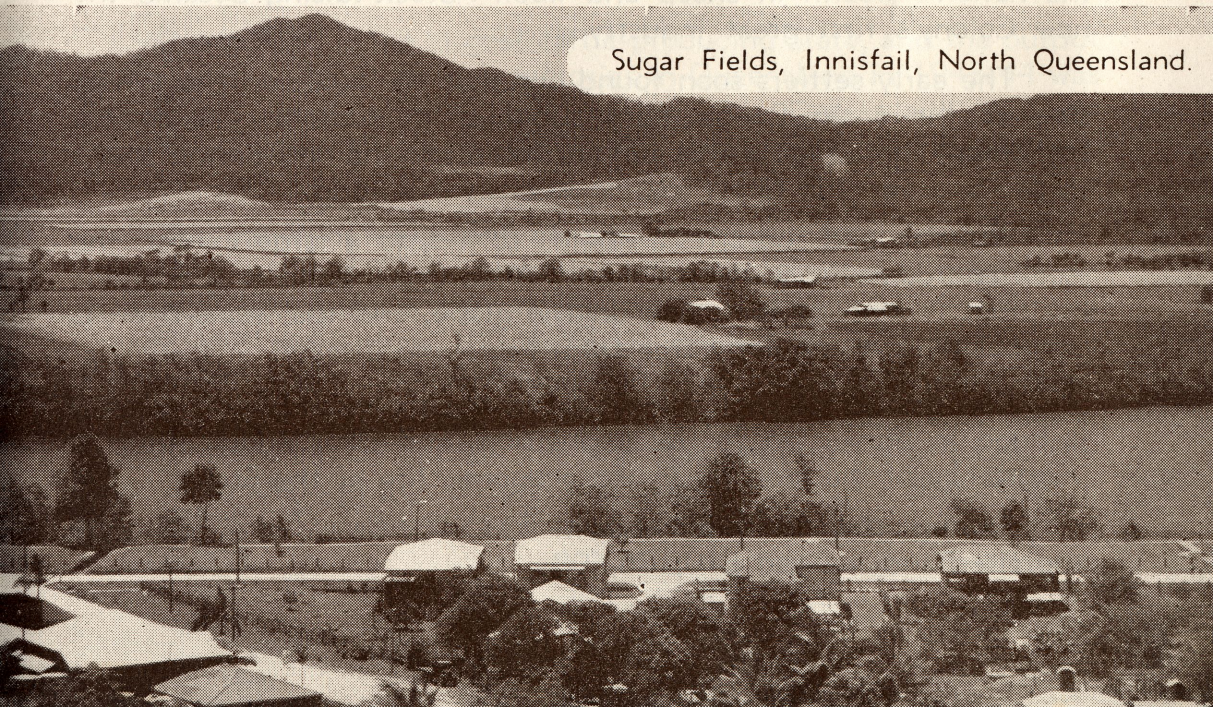
The Queensland Government, in common with other State Governments, has entered into an agreement with the Commonwealth Government regarding the settlement on the land of eligible discharged servicemen. The terms of the Agreement provide, inter alia, that settlement will be undertaken only where economic prospects for the production concerned are reasonably sound and that the number of discharged servicemen to be settled will be determined by settlement opportunities rather than by the number of applicants. Before servicemen will be assisted to become settlers they will be required to satisfy a competent authority as to their suitability, qualifications, and experience for the particular type of farming in which they wish to engage. All members of His Majesty's Forces of the present war who possess the necessary qualifications and who have served for six months or more, and who have been honourably discharged, will be eligible for settlement under the scheme.

THE scheme has in view the settlement of discharged servicemen in the mixed farming and agricultural districts of the State. The lands to be set apart will be subdivided into sound living areas and the State will effect improvements and carry out developmental works on the blocks to a stage where the land can be quickly brought into production. The tenure will be perpetual lease. Rental charges will be on an equitable basis and provision will be made for advances to settlers to pay for improvements, the value of which will be assessed at a fair and reasonable amount. Where there is more than one approved applicant for a block the successful applicant will be decided by ballot. The question as to whether the scheme is to be extended to include lands suitable for wool-growing and cattle-raising is now under consideration by the Commonwealth and State Governments.

Legislation making provision for the resumption and setting apart of suitable land for settlement and prescribing the terms and conditions of settlement and of advances to settlers has been passed by the State Parliament. The War Service Land Settlement Plan will be administered by the Department of Public Lands on behalf of the State and all inquiries in regard thereto should be addressed to the Secretary, Land Administration Board, Brisbane.

Apart altogether from the Commonwealth-State sponsored scheme of assisted settlement the State Government has decided, as a matter of policy, to give preference to returned servicemen in respect of 50 per cent. of the sheep and cattle lands which will be opened for selection by ballot after the war. In addition to this outright preference, returned servicemen will be eligible to compete in the ballot with civilians for the remaining 50 per cent. of the land.

Sugar Fields, Innisfail, North Queensland.



PAGEANT OF FLOCKS AND HERDS

In climate and soil Queensland is particularly blessed. A large proportion of the known plants, whether requiring temperate or torrid conditions, can be produced within its borders. Its whole range of climate embraces the cool conditions of the tableland territories from the Darling Downs to Atherton, the dry atmosphere of the western plains, and the humidity of the central and northern tropical coastal areas. Its soils range from the lighter loams to the heavy black alluvial of extensive river flats and the rich volcanic deposits.

A wise and far-sighted railway policy has made almost impossible the folly of centralisation. Each division of the State area is served with its own railway system, and within easy access of nearly every port are vast undeveloped or partly-developed coal measures which may be accepted as guarantees of a great industrial future. Geographically, Queensland is in a position to supply many of the economic wants of Eastern Asia and the Pacific Islands.

It was not until the early forties of last century that land settlement began to take definite shape. Pastoral occupation followed closely on discovery. The wealth of the Darling Downs, a wonderful stretch of country comprising 16,000,000 acres, of which 4,000,000 are considered to be among the most fertile black soil areas in the world, attracted southern stockmen.

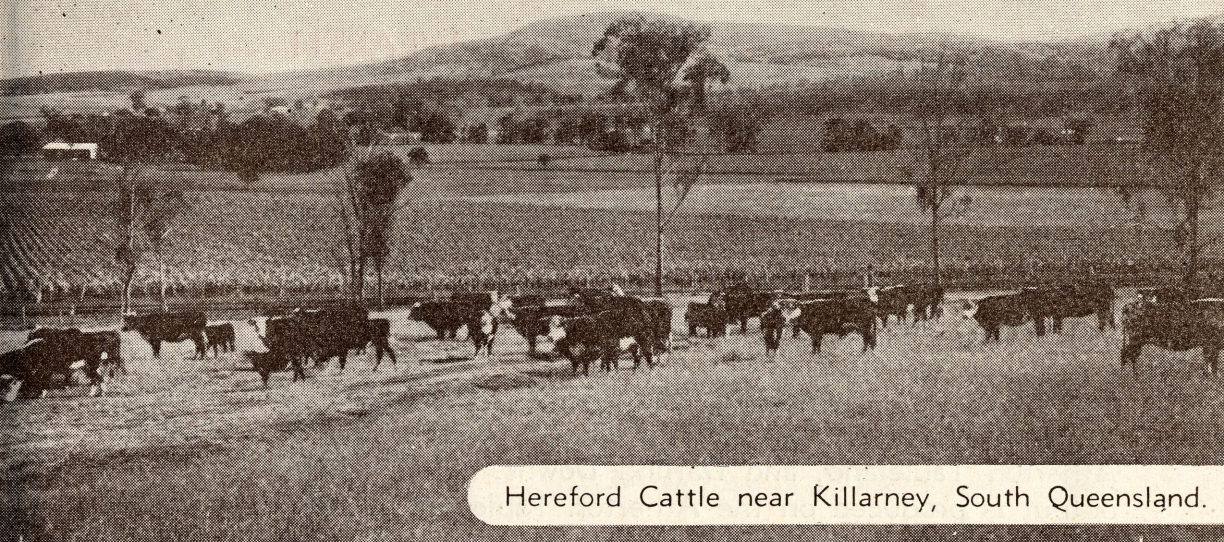
In subsequent years the drover followed the pathfinder northward to natural cattle country, and westward to the great open rolling downs—the Mitchell grass country that to-day produces much of the nation's wealth in sheep and wool. Stock-raising became the new Colony's first great industry.

The early settlers soon found out that the lands on the sunset side of the Main Range were suitable for pastoral occupation. Settlement spread westwards and northwards to the far interior, where to-day is grown the finest merino wool in the world.

Artesian and sub-artesian bores solved, to a large extent, the stock and domestic water problem. Also, Queensland is one of the healthiest countries for stock on the globe, and the western areas particularly are singularly free from pests and disease.

The amount of capital invested in the sheep and wool industry is huge in proportion to the population, and clearly indicates the importance of the industry in the economic life of the State.

During the 1944-45 season 533,095 bales of wool were appraised and realised £10,186,698.



Hereford Cattle near Killarney, South Queensland.

THE beef industry also developed from very small beginnings although its governing conditions have often been less stable. At the time of separation in 1859, Durham and Shorthorn were the only breeds represented on Queensland pastures. Since then, by a systematic breeding with stock from the great cattle families of the Old Country, herds have been much improved, and other breeds, including Herefords and Polled Angus, have been introduced.

The position which the livestock and meat industry occupies in the economic and industrial life of Queensland, and of Australia generally, is of the utmost importance. On an average some 20,000,000 animals are treated in the Commonwealth annually for conversion into meat and other derivatives.

Queensland is the largest cattle-producing State, and the output of the meatworks and bacon factories in Queensland in 1943-44 was £15,422,076. The stock now running on Queensland pastures include 21,267,601 sheep, 6,623,112 cattle, 380,670 horses, and 438,088 pigs.

The rapid development of the dairying industry over recent years has resulted in its becoming of great economic importance. About 30,000 farmers are engaged in the production of milk and cream, and more than 100 factories convert these products into cheese and butter. An agreement between the three Eastern States, whereby a fixed price is paid for butter sold in the Commonwealth, has stabilised market conditions and has benefited the producers. The value realised for butter sold during 1944-45 amounted to £6,498,289. The cheese production for the same year was valued at £1,100,000.

CROP AND HARVEST WEALTH

IN Queensland there are approximately 1,750,000 acres under cultivation. The principal crops in order of gross market value are—sugar-cane, wheat, maize, lucerne, hay, cotton, tomatoes, pumpkins, potatoes, tobacco, and peanuts. The total value of all agricultural products for the year 1943-44 was £21,751,000.

Maize and wheat are Queensland's chief cereals. Well over 3,000,000 bushels of maize or more than 60 per cent. of the total crop of the Commonwealth is produced in this State. The principal maize-growing districts are—Moreton, Wide Bay and Burnett, Atherton Tableland, and Darling Downs. About one-fifth of the output is produced on the Atherton Tableland, a fertile temperate upland in the northern tropical zone in the hinterland of Cairns. The maize crop was worth £1,455,593 in 1943-44. Wheat is grown chiefly on the Darling Downs. The crop for 1943-44 aggregated 5,084,292 bushels, the gross value of which was £1,038,317.

The growing of cereals in this State is carried on mainly in combination with some form of stockraising, principally dairying. In the wheat belt, which is mainly located on the Darling Downs, where sometimes it is essential that the crop be grazed down in its early stages, sheep raising for the production of fat lambs also is an important industry.

The annual area under cotton normally varies from 60,000 to 65,000 acres, according to climatic and price factors. During the war, however, production declined due to more attractive prices ruling for other commodities and labour shortage.

Pineapple Plantation, South Queensland.



THE principal tobacco-growing areas are in the Cairns hinterland (including the Mareeba and Dimbulah districts), where about half the aggregate crop is produced, and the south-western districts of Texas, Inglewood, and Yelarbon. The leaf is disposed of to Australian manufacturers, who purchase their requirements through central auction rooms, local selling floors, and by farm-to-farm visits.

The Peanut Board was established in 1924 when the commercial production of peanuts began. The bulk of the crop is grown in the Kingaroy district. The Peanut Board is associated with a co-operative organisation for the holding of assets, chiefly silos for storage and machinery for shelling and other treatment. The quantity of peanuts received by the Board in the year 1943-44 was 9,420 tons, which realised about £344,000.

In Queensland tropical, sub-tropical, and temperate fruits are grown successfully. There are approximately 120,000 acres under fruit and vegetables. In 1943-44 the value of production amounted to £5,700,000.

The most valuable fruits produced are pineapples, bananas, and citrus. Other fruits grown in various parts of the State from the Granite Belt to the Atherton Tableland include apples, peaches, pears, plums, apricots, cherries, nectarines, custard-apples, figs, lemons, limes, mangoes, passion fruit, papaws, sour-sops, granadillas, persimmons, quinces, guavas, rosellas, and strawberries. Queensland can justly claim to produce pineapples of quality at least equal to that produced in any other part of the world. It is estimated that there are 7,000 acres under pineapple cultivation in this State.

Bananas are grown in the coastal country from the Far North to the New South Wales border. The chief variety is the Cavendish, which is particularly suited to cultivation under Queensland conditions. Bananas closely follow pineapples in economic value to the State.

The citrus industry is being developed along sound lines, the fruit being grown in practically all parts of the State. Much of the fruit is now produced in the coastal districts, but extension is taking place in the drier inland regions where it has been proved that better fruit can be grown with the aid of irrigation. There are 4,000 acres under oranges and mandarins.

The Stanthorpe district, situated on the southern tableland at an altitude of about 3,000 feet, is the principal area producing temperate fruits—the famous "Granite Belt." There are now 10,000 acres producing these fruits, mainly apples, peaches, pears, plums, and apricots.

FOREST HERITAGE

THE story of Queensland forests is at once a romance and a tragedy—romance because of the variety of timbers that, once cast aside as worthless, are now in demand as beautiful ornamental woods; tragedy because millions of feet of timber were cut and allowed to rot, destroyed as valueless because of the very prodigality of Nature. Nevertheless, in spite of a hundred years of wastage, Queensland remains a veritable treasure-house of jewelled timbers. Our forests comprehend incomparable collections of veneer and cabinetwoods, quality pine, and quality hardwood. Queensland is one of the main source of supplies of Australia's softwoods and cabinetwoods, and to-day its fine woods are finding fame in the world's markets.

As far back as 1873 John Jardine, at a meeting of the Acclimatisation Society, observed that the work of destruction of timber had been going on from the very earliest stage of the colony's existence. At one time the Moreton Bay district was covered with red cedar—that most dignified and handsome of woods—but sixty years ago it had vanished, and hardly a single stick remains to-day. Little blame can be placed on the men who actually wielded the axes. It was for them to carve out for themselves a livelihood in a new country, which had not then realised the need for a policy of forest conservation.

There are no woods in the world which have the sheen of our Queensland timbers or reveal their jewelled beauties—"jewelled" because they shimmer with light. Some of these treasures may be seen in the cowyards and cowbails of the Atherton Tableland, where the brilliant fiddle-backed black bean adorns the milking-yards in the humble capacity of posts and fence rails.

There is romance indeed in the story of how Queensland's Cinderella timbers, long neglected as valueless or sent up in the smoke of settlers' clearing fires, came at last into the kingdom. There is the beautiful red tulip oak, tried as weatherboard and contemptuously tossed aside, but to-day a magnificent timber for interior furnishing; there are the lambent-hued sassafras, the ivory quondong, the maroon-tinted satin sycamore, the blue-tinged bolly silkwood, and numerous others, neglected for years, but their value as timbers for artistic furnishing at last realised. Saffronheart, once an obscure scrubwood, was rescued from the red demon of the forest fire, and now, when most of it has been burnt to ashes, it is world-famous as the best fishing-rod timber procurable. Walnut was another wood that was found among the despised and rejected timbers of the sawmill.



Jungle in Lamington National Park, South Queensland.

BUT perhaps the greatest of all is the romance associated with satinay, found only in quantity on Fraser Island, where there are many millions of feet. Once condemned by timber-getters because of its propensities for warping, the Forestry Department discovered that all that was necessary was to season the wood under cover. Now satinay takes its place as an aristocrat among timbers, finding its best use in high-class furniture, panelling, polished floors, and fittings.

But it is not only for the more spectacular timbers that Queensland's forests are noted. Quality hardwoods and softwoods play an important role in the more commonplace, in building, railway construction, public utilities, and a thousand and one other purposes. During the war the demand for utility timbers was greater than ever. Aeroplane bodies and propellers, battery separators, rifle furniture, barges, pontoons, were a few of the war requirements which demanded and received suitable timbers for their construction from Queensland's forests. The abnormal demands on the State's timber resources during the war has necessitated the Forestry Department undertaking a vigorous post-war reforestation programme and £1,347,000 will be spent on this work in the first two post-war years.

The timber industry in Queensland is worth, in round figures, about £3,000,000 a year. We can, in time, build up a greater export market, filling our wharves with ironbark girders, and turpentine poles for England and the United States, sandalwood for China, termite-proof cypress pine for New Guinea, walnut and bean for the United States and Europe—to replace French and Circassian walnut—and railway sleepers for the Far East, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom.

THE SUGAR INDUSTRY

QUEENSLAND is the chief cane sugar-producing State of the Commonwealth. The sugar belt extends in a narrow discontinuous strip from Mossman, beyond Cairns, in the Far North, to the Clarence River in New South Wales.

The industry was established in Queensland some eighty years ago. The production of raw sugar in 1944 was 643,540 tons. Only 6.83 tons of cane were required to manufacture a ton of sugar.

The industry in Queensland was developed to a considerable extent with coloured labour, chiefly Kanakas from the Pacific Islands. The continued use of such labour was, however, repugnant to public sentiment, and shortly after Federation was achieved in 1900, the Kanakas were repatriated, and the industry has since then been conducted on a white-labour basis. In this the sugar industry has not only been a major factor in the realisation of a "White Australia" ideal, but has justified its adoption as a matter of national policy. Queensland has now bred up a large resident pure-blooded white population under tropical conditions and the bogey so often raised as to the deterioration of the white race in the tropics of Queensland has been effectively laid.

There are 33 mills in Queensland, some of which will compare favourably with the most modern in the world. Sixteen of the mills are co-operatively owned by the farmers who supply the cane. The capital invested in mills is conservatively estimated at £10,000,000. In addition over £20,000,000 is invested in farms. Further, a vast amount of capital is invested in the towns, and in railways, roads, wharves, and other undertakings which depend for their existence on the sugar industry.

In 1900 the Government established a Bureau of Sugar Experiment Stations within the Department of Agriculture, and a scientific staff is employed in investigations into the agriculture of cane, insect pests, cane diseases, and sugar-mill technology. It is interesting to note that in this State it requires, on an average, less than 7 tons of cane to produce 1 ton of sugar. This record is not equalled in any other sugar-producing country in the world.

About 8,000 farmers grow the cane, while employees on farms and in mills number about 20,000, and include many highly-trained technical men and representatives of skilled trades. The indirect employment provided by the sugar industry is very great and is not confined to Queensland alone. For the year 1943-44 Queensland's interstate exports stood at £19,472,464, of which £7,077,654 was represented by raw sugar. The annual value of sugar exported both interstate and overseas is over £10,000,000.

LUXURIANT VEGETATION

THE visitor to Queensland will find much to hold his interest in the flora of the State, which, like its fauna, yields abundant traces of the migration of life to Australia from Asia in the remote past when the two continents were linked together. Queensland possesses a greater variety and wealth of vegetation than does any other portion of the Commonwealth, and the richness of her natural pastures is probably unrivalled.

The outstanding feature of the State's vegetation is the large number of different kinds of trees found within its borders. More than 1,000 varieties of timbers—suitable to every use to which wood can be put—are to be found mainly in the extensive vine scrubs or jungles, botanically called rain-forests, which reach their highest development in Australia in North Queensland.

Forests in the abundantly watered coastal districts include highly valuable timbers and cabinet-woods. Various species of silky oak, white cedar, rosewood, bean, acacia cedar or red siris, yellow siris, booyongs, red and yellow carrabin, calophyllum, the white beeches, rose, tulipwood, Queensland walnut, Burdekin plum, Daintree maple or Cairns pencil cedar, yellow hickory, and a host of other timbers constitute a vast field of national wealth.

There are approximately 4,500 kinds of flowering plants and 300 kinds of ferns growing wild throughout the State. Waving palms add a touch of tropic beauty to the Northern coast lands. There are about thirty varieties of palms and, for the most part, they are found in the rain-forests. Another characteristic of the rain-forests of the tropical North is the richness of the fern flora, approximately 250 types of ferns and fern allies flourishing in them. Beautiful native tropic orchids add their touch of colour to the luxuriance of the Northern forests. Of the 160 different types which flourish in the State, about 100 are epiphytic.

The interior of the State contains hundreds of species of fodder plants especially adapted by Nature to withstand the ravages of protracted rainless periods, and the famous Mitchell, Flinders, and Panic grasses cover rolling downs and provide some of the richest natural pastures in the world.

It is in Queensland that the Australian vegetation reveals most of its riches. Here there is a mixture of types to be found in all the other States, and some that occur nowhere else. On the Macpherson Range the dank moss-grown Antarctic beeches are the outposts of the ~~great~~ beech forests of Chile, Terra del Fuego, and New Zealand.

MAMMALS AND BIRDS

THE fauna of Queensland is so rich that no adequate review can be given in the available space. Although much work has been done, there are many groups awaiting research by experts, while for the field naturalist there is inexhaustible interest. This varied fauna is evidently associated with the diversity of environments found within the State. We find extremes ranging from luxuriant jungles to desert areas, from rugged mountains to wide western plains, while on the eastern coast the islands of the Great Barrier Reef afford opportunities for the study of special groups.

The coastal regions of Queensland have been more prolific in maintaining life, both vegetable and animal, than have any other similar-sized area of Australia. Queensland yields some of the most interesting evidence of how the flora and fauna of a long remote period poured down to the south across what now is Torres Strait, and other waterways separating us from Asia, but which, in another age, were parts of a land connection. Hence it is that marsupials are found in America as well as in Australia. Everywhere else this form of life has long been extinct. (It is interesting to note that there are several remarkable Queensland fossil marsupials, including gigantic and bizarre forms, and these are as distinctively Australian as the surviving forms.)

As the last link of land between Australia and the outside world to disappear was between Cape York and Papua, many species are common to both Queensland and New Guinea. Among these are the tree-climbing kangaroo and the cassowary, a great wingless bird found in North Queensland jungles. Our rifle-birds have many allies among the Birds of Paradise, and our dainty little Sun-bird is also found in several northern islands. Among the many distinctively Australian species are the world-famous Lyre-birds of our southern mountains which have no near relatives elsewhere.

The greater part of Queensland mammalian fauna consists of marsupials, an order of animals not discovered alive in any other part of the world, except in the form of the opossums in America, until found in Australia. Kangaroos are still plentiful over most of Queensland, but the larger types have been driven some distance from the centres of population and settlement. There are a number of species, ranging in size from the "old man kangaroo" to the kangaroo rat, which can hide in a clump of grass. The rock wallabies are a very agile group. The koala, or native bear, is met with frequently in some districts in Queensland. This quaint-looking, tailless, tree-climbing animal is one of the most specialised of our marsupials.

THE timbered country shelters many phalangers, popularly known as 'possums. Related to the opossum is the flying squirrel. A dainty little parachuting marsupial in the same group is the Feather-tail (*Acrobates*). The Cuscus and a Black and White Striped Phalanger are occasionally found in the Far North. Although wombats are not as common in Queensland as in the Southern States, both the Hairy-nosed and Naked-nosed types are found. One of the best known mammals of Queensland is the dingo, or wild dog. There are many species of native rodents and bats. In an order of their own are the platypus, remarkable aquatic creatures of unique structure which inhabit the banks of rivers, and the echidna or spiny ant-eater, popularly known as the hedgehog and porcupine, though they bear no relationship to either.

Of over 700 birds known in Australia, the great majority are indigenous to Queensland. The handsomest birds are found among the rifle and bower-birds, parrots, finches, pigeons, dragoon-birds, and wrens. Black, white, and coloured cockatoos and widely varying parrakeets—all of the parrot family—exist in plenty, making the forests resound with their screeching and dazzling the eyes of the traveller with the brightness of their plumage. The Rufus Scrub-bird is a rare and remarkable bird found in the riotous rain-forests of Lamington National Park. The Scrub-fowl of North Queensland is of special interest because of the remarkable size of the old mounds where the eggs are incubated. There are various types of eagles, falcons, goshawks, kestrels, kites, harriers, and owls. The kingfishers include the kookaburra or "laughing jackass." Mutton-birds, gannets, terns, gulls, noddies, pipers, and other migratory sea-birds frequent the region of the Great Barrier Reefs in countless thousands.



Echidna or Australian Ant Eater.

TOURIST RESORTS

DESTINED to become the playground of the nation, Queensland holds many charms and surprises even for her native-born, who are just awakening to the fact that in scenic beauty, variety of climate, and diversity of holiday attractions, their own State is without peer. For a thousand miles along her sunny littoral there are countless enchanting mountain, seaside, and island resorts where memorable holidays can be enjoyed—distinctive holiday attractions not to be encountered in any other part of the Commonwealth.

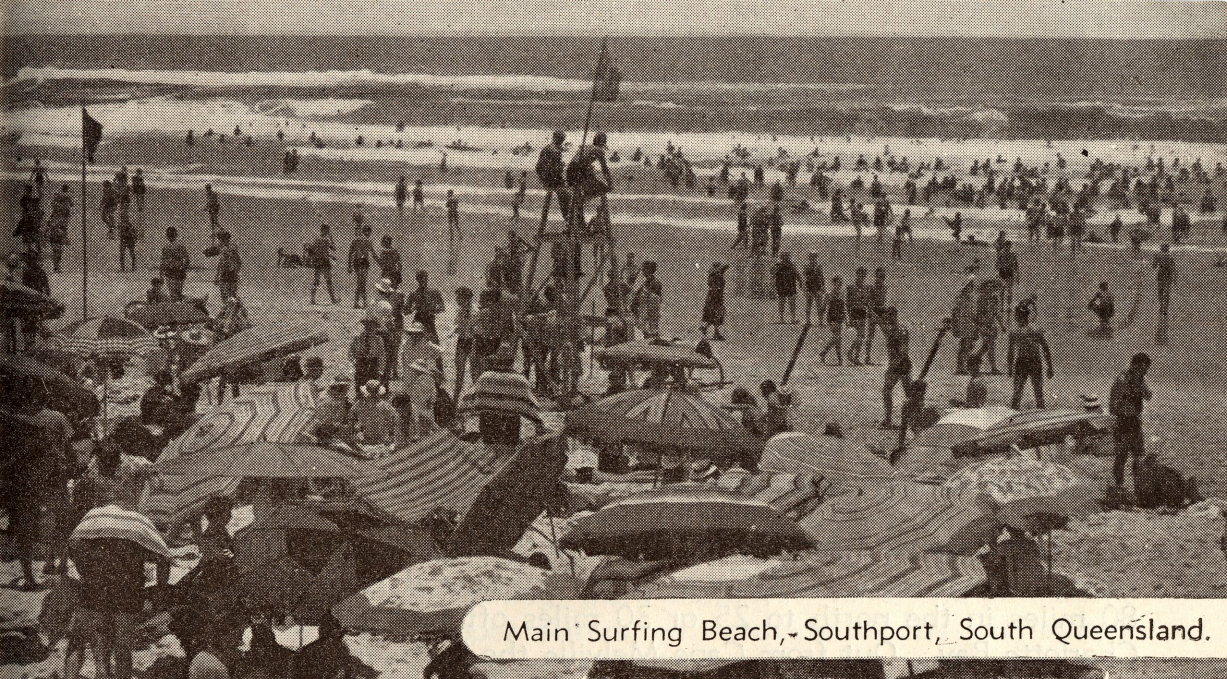
Queensland's chief charm to the tourist during the winter months will, of course, be the Wonderland of the North and the coral-girt dream isles within the regions of the Great Barrier Reefs, but South Queensland also is singularly favoured with pleasure resorts. Indeed it would be difficult to excel in another area of similar size the number and variety of scenic attractions of those which are easily accessible from Brisbane.

To the South, commencing at Southport, which is 50 miles from the capital, and extending 20 miles to Coolangatta and Tweed Heads on the border of the two States, there is a sequence of surfing beaches equal to Australia's best. Behind these coastal resorts a chain of mountains extend from Tamborine to Lamington National Park, embracing Springbrook and Beechmont, and rising from 2,000 feet to 4,000 feet. Transcendent panoramas, luxuriant "rain forest" vegetation, deep gorges, waterfalls, and an invigorating climate 20 degrees lower than the coastal plains, are features of these delightful mountain resorts.

Around Brisbane itself there is an infinite variety of attractions which are fully described in literature issued by the Government Tourist Bureau. The visitor never fails to be charmed with Moreton Bay and the archipelago of verdant islands. Popular excursions are conducted down the Brisbane River to Redcliffe and Bribie Island and to Amity Point and Dunwich on Stradbroke Island.

West of Brisbane is Toowoomba (2,000 feet) on the crest of the Main Range, gateway to the Darling Downs. The beauty of the surrounding district, and the exhilarating climate combine to make it an enchanting resort for health and pleasure. Stanthorpe (3,600 feet) is the centre of the State's temperate fruitgrowing district.

In the near-North are the oceanside resorts of Caloundra, Mooloolaba, Alexandra Headland, Maroochydore, Noosa Heads, and Coolum. A few miles inland is the Blackall Range (2,000 feet) with ever-cool resorts at Maleny, Montville, and Mapleton. Large quantities of pineapples, bananas, and citrus fruits are grown in this picturesque district.



Main Surfing Beach, Southport, South Queensland.

FURTHER north are the prodigal Wide Bay and Burnett districts with the twin cities of Maryborough and Bundaberg. The Pialba-Urangan seafloor, Hervey Bay, and the pretty hinterland never fail to enchant the visitor. Heron Island, another resort on the Barrier Reef, is out from Gladstone.

Rockhampton also has picturesque environs and excellent bathing beaches at Yeppoon and Emu Park. At Mackay the tourist will find a wide range of scenic attractions. Excursions can be made to Eimeo, through the picturesque Mount Jukes' Valley to Seaforth and Newry Harbour, or through acres of waving sugar-cane in the Pioneer Valley to Eungella Range (2,000 to 4,000 feet).

Between Mackay and Proserpine are clusters of coral-fringed islands forming the Cumberland and Whitsunday Groups, which include Brampton, Lindeman, Day Dream (West Molle), Hayman, South Molle, and Long Islands. Bowen also holds much of interest to the tourist. On the waters of the harbour yachting is a favourite pastime.

Still further north is the delightful resort of Magnetic Island, a few miles off the shores of Townsville. Mount Spec is a botanical paradise. But it is not until the tourist reaches Cairns that the spell of the tropics is really felt. Here in this northern wonderland Queensland scenery reaches its highest degree of perfection. The fortunate tourist can never forget the ineffable beauty of the Barron Gorge and the tumultuous falls, Kuranda, Yungaburra, and Malanda on the Atherton Tableland, the crater lakes of Eacham and Barrine, or the Gillies Highway sweeping down from verdant plateaux to coral seas.

GREAT BARRIER CORAL REEFS

THE innumerable coral reefs and isles and shoals to which the name "Great Barrier Reef" is applied extend from Bristow Island, near New Guinea, to Lady Elliott Island, a little north of Breaksea Spit—a distance of about 1,250 statute miles. The area within the Barrier Reefs, comprising 80,000 square miles, is dotted with more than 600 coral-girt islands, forming a marine playground of unrivalled loveliness.

The distance from the mainland to the inner edges of the reefs varies a great deal. Off Cape York Peninsula it varies from about 80 miles in the north to 25 or 30 miles off Port Stewart, Princess Charlotte Bay. Out from Cape Melville the reefs are closest to the mainland—less than 10 miles. At Cooktown the inner edge is about 18 miles and the outer edge nearly 36 miles away, while out from Townsville the inner edge is some 50 miles distant.

Southward the reefs generally trend away from the coast, forming an infinite maze of loosely-connected reefs different in size, shape, and spacing, to Swain Reefs about 150 miles out to sea. Further south the "Reef" becomes even more broken and scattered and finally resolves into a series of widely-separated patches such as the Capricorn and Bunker Groups. In fact, these groups and clusters of sand and shingle cays can almost be considered distinct from the so-called Barrier Reef proper. Actually only to the north of Cairns do the reefs resemble a Barrier Reef. They are then much more continuous and also much nearer the coast.

The waterway between the Outer Barrier and the mainland is therefore a sea of considerable width—in most places south of Townsville as wide as the eastern part of the English Channel. Nowhere does dry land face deep sea. Between intervenes a bank stretching seawards for 10 to 100 miles, and sloping outwards from a depth of 10 fathoms to about 50 fathoms, and more. This shallow fringe, the Continental Shelf, makes a step between the land and the ocean abyss. From the outside edge the seafloor plunges down steeply, and then the unfathomed depths begin.

The marvellous prodigality of these Barrier waters, the infinite variety of life on the teeming reefs and lagoons is a constant source of interest and wonder. Every reef pool is a marvel of bizarre life, with all the colour of the tropics, under every rock the lurking place of strange, fantastic, marine creatures. One can never forget the Great Barrier Reefs, and the islands of Australia's "Aegean Sea," never forget those precious memories of a marine lotus-land.

AN ANGLER'S PARADISE

QUEENSLAND waters are particularly rich in fish life. There is a wide variety of species and an infinite number of suitable fishing resorts. The angler and the big-game hunter of the seas will find on and off any part of the coast opportunities for the pursuit of almost any kind of line and rod fishing in vogue in other parts of the world. He may angle with light lines in some placid in-shore fishing ground for estuarine species such as bream, whiting, tailor, and flathead. He may find greater zest in off-shore fishing with heavier tackle for snapper, morwong, or red emperor. And if he seeks game-fishing, giant mackerel, tuna, and swordfish, which frequent the deeper waters, will provide all the excitement and expenditure of energy associated with that type of sport.

The Queensland coast, extending into tropic waters for 3,236 miles, is deeply indented with bays, inlets, and estuaries; and as it is protected for the greater part of its length by the Great Barrier Reef, it forms an extensive feeding and spawning ground. It is estimated that more than 250 species of fish in these waters are edible.

The best time for fishing along the Barrier Reef is from the middle of August to the end of October, when weather conditions are most favourable. The south-east trades usually cease about mid-August and light northerlies prevail.

Barred Spanish mackerel is the best of the sporting fish in the northern waters. Mackerel may be caught along the edges of the tide rips of the Outer Barrier throughout the year, but from May to October is the best time. In the Capricorn and Bunker Groups they are more plentiful during May and June. Then they commence to move north, making their appearance in the Whitsunday archipelago about the end of June, where they are to be caught in great numbers until October.

Other surface-feeding game-fish include yellow-finned tuna, wahoo, queen-fish, giant pike, diamond trevally, and bonito, while marlin and broadbill swordfish, and sailfish, are sometimes brought to gaff.

Over the coral reefs the angler will find a varied assortment of fighting fish. One of the most important is the red-mouthed snapper, a veritable monarch of the seas. Then there are the various parrot-fishes, rainbow-fish, coral trout, the dozens of species of rock cod, the largest being the Queensland groper, red emperor, hussars, file-fish, sweetlip, haretail, and many other bottom-feeders. Most of these coral fish are gorgeously coloured.

THE VANISHING TRIBES

IN appearance the Queensland aborigines show no very distinctive features separating them from those of other mainland States of Australia, and from the racial standpoint they cannot be dealt with as an integral unit. It is true that the languages of the tribes of the Cape York Peninsula, of the Northern Territory, and of North-Western Australia, have been separated from the languages of the remainder of the continent. It is also well-known that some of the Queensland tribes had distinctive types of weapons and some other appurtenances, and many of their special customs have been recorded. These distinctions, however, are tribal, rather than racial.

The Australian aboriginal may be described as veritably Stone Age man, ignorant of metals, pottery, agriculture, and navigation, living mainly from hand to mouth; a fairly skilful hunter, and a keen observer of nature and tracker of the wild; a truly primitive man, yet not actually degenerate either from the purely physical standpoint or when judged by any ethical standard.

Physically the aboriginal is long-legged, slender-limbed, small-handed, thick-skulled, long-headed, with deep-set eyes associated with a characteristic nasal notch, and projecting eyebrow ridges (especially in males), with occasionally an almost Neanderthal-like retreating forehead. The nose is wide, especially at the nostrils, and the lips are prominent. His skin is dark chocolate-brown, and not black like that of the Negro. His dark hair is usually wavy or curly, and is glossy in appearance. The Queensland aboriginal is more allied to the Caucasian than to the Negro or the Mongol. Although some of the coastal tribes lived in fertile areas where there was plenty of food, it is recognised that the environment of the aborigines on the whole supplied few stimulating influences.

The racial distinctions of the aborigines and their elaborate and very remarkable social system suggest a lengthy period of isolation. There is considerable evidence for the antiquity of man in Australia, and probably the evolution of the aboriginal race has largely taken place here. There is obviously a special interest attached to the studies of these primitive people by specialists. Even to-day, when a corroboree is staged in the bright firelight, and the distinctively painted and agile tribesmen display some histrionic skill, often with a touch of poetry or humour, to the accompaniment of recurring chants, it is impossible not to be thrilled by the significance. As a living record of the evolution of humanity they are unique.

ABORIGINAL PROTECTION

THE number of aborigines in Queensland is estimated to be 19,103 (8,977 full-bloods, 6,451 half-bloods, and 3,675 Torres Strait Islanders). About 1,300 are living in a nomadic condition, 3,200 are on Government Settlements, 4,376 in Church Mission Stations, and the remainder in country Protectorates.

There are three Government Settlements—Cherbourg, Palm Island, and Woorabinda. Fourteen others are controlled by religious denominations, the Government granting a subsidy towards the cost of upkeep. In Torres Strait there are numerous island Reserves, each under the control of a teacher-superintendent, who teaches the children and advises the Native Council in their direction of village affairs.

The State is divided into 105 aboriginal districts, in each of which the senior officer of police is a Protector, who administers aboriginal matters under the direction of the Director of Native Affairs in Brisbane. The accumulated savings of the aborigines held in trust now total £302,000. Each owner has his own banking account and can draw on it for any reasonable need.

The Torres Strait Islanders, of mostly Papuan type, are a fine strapping race of people, much superior physically and intellectually to the mainland native. A special Act of Parliament provides local autonomy under Departmental guidance for these people. They maintain themselves by fishing for pearlshell, beche-de-mer, etc.

In the Settlements and Missions, homes are provided where the young and growing children are trained on a rural school system and receive proper nourishment and care. The old and sick are suitably cared for. Sport and entertainment are not neglected. Agriculture, dairying, fruit growing, cattle and horse breeding, and sawmilling are carried on by resident labour to assist towards self-support of the Institutions. To inculcate further interest among the inmates, Annual Shows and Exhibitions are staged at the various settlements.

At Great Palm Island is the largest of the numerous aboriginal settlements, the inhabitants numbering about 1,400. The island village is picturesquely laid out with avenues of cocoanut palms, mango, and other fruit trees. The people are gathered there from all parts of Northern Queensland, under the kindly care of the Superintendent. There is a good general hospital, a school, and suitable housing. The settlements at Cherbourg (population 1,000) and Woorabinda (population 800) are administered on similar lines.

CLIMATE AND RAINFALL

AS 54 per cent of the State (360,000 square miles) lies within the geographical Tropics the climate is naturally warm, though the temperature has a daily range less than that of other countries under the same isothermal lines owing to the cool and regular sea breezes. During the short winter season the climate along the littoral from Coolangatta to Cairns is perfection itself.

Queensland can be divided, roughly, into three climatic regions, the climate of any locality depending more upon its position with respect to these divisions than upon its distance from the Equator:—

(1) The coast and adjacent mountain slopes where the climate is marked by a comparative evenness of temperature and a considerable degree of moisture, with annual average rainfalls varying from 40 inches to 180 inches, the latter being recorded in the seaboard district between Cairns and Cardwell (the heaviest rainfall area in Australia); (2) the mid-interior, which has a climate characterised by a wider range of temperature and an average rainfall varying from 15 to 25 inches per annum; (3) the far interior, where there is a still wider range of temperature and, in general, the atmosphere is very dry, especially over the far central-west and south-west where the average rainfall is mostly below 10 inches and the rate of evaporation high.

Most of the rain falls in summer, the four months—December to March—being regarded as the “wet season,” when north-west monsoonal influences attain their greatest activity and the prevailing south-east trade wind becomes more pronounced, frequently producing torrential rains, especially on the northern coast. There is, however, a serviceable rain distribution over the major portion of the State during the other seasons, and except in the Far North, there are, normally, no very dry months over the eastern part. The monthly distribution of rain is more equable south from the Tropic than in tropical areas.

With surface altitudes ranging up to 5,000 feet, the climate embraces many features, from the characteristically tropical heat of summer (with drier inland temperatures at times over 110 degrees) to winter's frosty nights over the greater part (including the tropical tablelands behind Cairns) and occasional light snowfalls on the south-western highlands near Stanthorpe.

Within an hour's journey or so from the main centres of population the humid heat of the coastal plains can be left behind by ascending to the highlands of the Main Range, where tourist resorts have been established.

DIRECTORY

QUEENSLAND STATE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

Agriculture and Stock, William Street.
Auditor-General, Executive Building, William Street.
Bureau of Industry, 108 George Street.
Bureau of Rural Development, Melbourne Street, South Brisbane.
Chief Secretary's Office, Executive Building, George Street.
Electoral, Treasury Building, George Street.
Electricity Commission, Parbury House, Eagle Street.
Forestry, Executive Building, George Street.
Golden Casket, Insurance Building, Adelaide Street.
Harbours and Marine, Edward Street.
Health and Home Affairs, Treasury Building, George Street.
Immigration, Main Street, Kangaroo Point.
Insurance, Insurance Building, Adelaide Street.
Justice, Treasury Building, George Street.
Labour and Employment, Treasury Building, George Street.
Lands, Executive Building, George Street.
Licensing Commission, Treasury Building, George Street.
Main Roads Commission, Upper Albert Street.
Mines, Treasury Building, George Street.
Museum and Art Gallery, Bowen Bridge Road.
Native Affairs, William Street.
Parliament House, George Street.
Police, Treasury Building, George Street.
Printing Office, George Street.
Prisons Department, Treasury Building, George Street.
Public Curator, Insurance Building, Edward Street.
Public Instruction, Treasury Building, George Street.
Public Library, William Street.
Public Service Commissioner, George and Elizabeth Streets.
Public Works, Treasury Building, George Street.
Railway Department, Railway Building, Adelaide Street.
Registrar-General, Treasury Building, George Street.
State Children Department, William Street.
State Housing Commission, Insurance Building, Adelaide Street.
State Stores Board, William Street.
Taxation, Taxation Building, George Street.
Titles, Treasury Building, George Street.
Tourist Bureau, Railway Building, Adelaide Street.
Transport Commission, Upper Albert Street.
Treasury, Treasury Building, George Street.
Weights and Measures Department, 76-86 George Street.



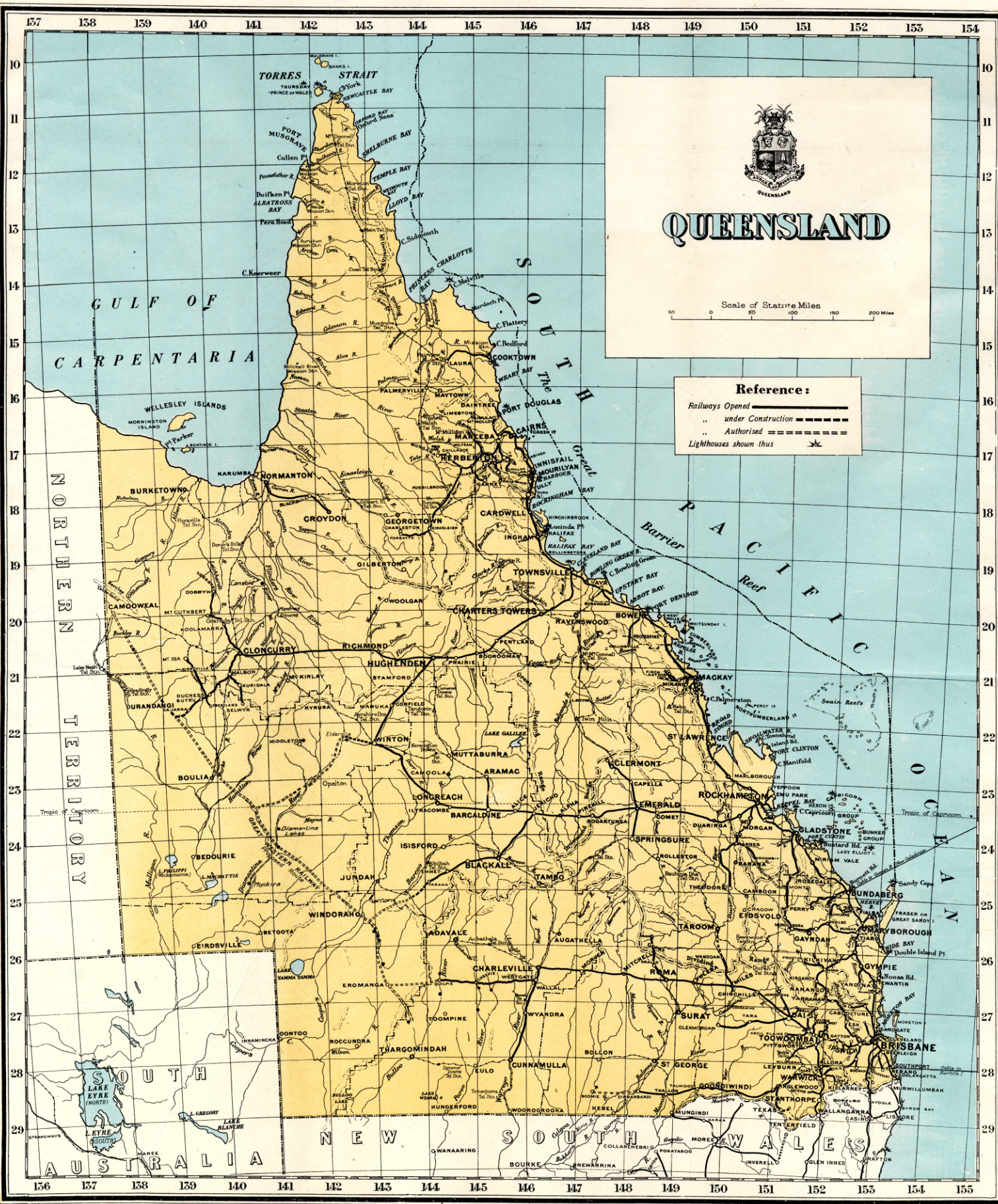
TRAVEL SERVICE

Information regarding tourist resorts in Queensland will be supplied and complete bookings for transportation and accommodation services made upon application to the—

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT TOURIST BUREAU

ADELAIDE STREET BRISBANE

ALSO AT
ROCKHAMPTON - TOWNSVILLE - CAIRNS



QUEENSLAND

Scale of Statute Miles
0 50 100 150 200 Miles

Reference :
Railways Opened —————
" under Construction - - - - -
" Authorised = = = = =
Lighthouses shown thus ★



MILLAA MILLAA FALLS, NORTH QUEENSLAND

State Library of Queensland



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